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a mass of writhing worms, actually distending the portion of the intestine they occupied. The species appears to be an undescribed one, and is interesting from its comparatively large size. It was named and described as follows:—

ANOPLOPHRYA VERMICULARIS.—Body cylindrical, slightly tapering posteriorly, rounded at the extremities, or subacute behind; flattened at the anterior extremity; translucent white, finely striated longitudinally, uniformly clothed with short cilia; internally finely granular, with a longitudinal cylindrical nucleus occupying nearly the length of the axis, and with from twenty to thirty contractile vesicles, mostly arranged in one, but often in two longitudinal series. Length from two-fifths to one-half a millimetre; breadth in front .044 to .048 mm., behind .032 to .04 mm.

Besides the movements of progression induced by the cilia, the animal wriggles in a sigmoid manner and even doubles on itself. The contractile vesicles may contract more or less successively to mere points, but apparently at no time entirely disappear, and they may enlarge to double their usual size. The axial nucleus is at first barely perceptible, but becomes very obvious as the animal approaches dissolution.

Incidentally Prof. Leidy also stated that *Aspidogaster conchicola*, so common in the pericardium of *Anodonta* and *Unio*, he had also found in one instance in the oviduct of *Paludina decisa*.

JUNE 19.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Nineteen members present.

Remarks on the Seventeen-year Locust, the Hessian Fly, and a Chelifer.—Prof. LEIDY remarked that he had returned last evening from a short visit to Easton. He stated that the Seventeen-year Locust, *Cicada septendecim*, had made its appearance in the vicinity of that town. He further stated that the wheat in the same locality was seriously affected by the Hessian Fly, *Cecidomyia destructor*, which has now passed into the puparium stage. In one field examined half the crop was destroyed by the insect. He further remarked that his little daughter brought to him an Elater, *Alaus oculatus*, and, on her account professing to attach some interest to a common insect, in examining it with more than usual attention, he was surprised to find concealed beneath the elytra six Chelifers. He was not aware whether the Elater was commonly infested in this manner. In another specimen subsequently found, there were no Chelifers. The Book-scorpion, *C. museorum*, appears not to be common with us, as he rarely met with it. He had occasionally met with another species, perhaps

C. cancroides, attached to the House-fly. The *Chelifer* of the Elater is different from either of those just named, and is perhaps an undescribed species. Its characters are as follows:—

CHELIFER ALIUS.—Body in general chestnut-brown; the pedipalps and the dorsal shield of the cephalothorax being darkest; the abdomen lightest, and in the largest individuals, probably females, whitish with transverse dorsal and ventral bands of brown. Body with the sides nearly parallel, but widening slightly posteriorly; being widest near the termination of the abdomen, except in the largest female, in which it is widest near the middle of the abdomen. Maxillary palps shorter, or not longer than the body; intermediate joints of the same about twice the length of their thickness. Length of body from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.; length of pedipalps from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{9}{10}$ mm. All parts are hairy, but the abdomen of the largest ones is less so than in the others.

The species bears much resemblance in form and color to the *C. Reussii*, Koch. It also resembles the *C. americanus*, De Geer, but does not possess the knob on the penultimate joint of the pedipalp.

JUNE 26.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Nineteen members present.

The Birth of a Rhizopod.—Prof. LEIDY remarked that while it was a matter of common observation that the naked Rhizopods, like *Amœba*, and *Actinophrys*, multiply by division, the manner in which the test-bearing forms were produced was not so obvious.

Many instances are recorded in which observers, beginning with Le Clerc, who first described a *Diffugia*, have noticed pairs of individuals attached by the mouths of their tests. In these instances the animals have generally been supposed to be in copulation, or conjugation as it is commonly called, and perhaps such is often the case. It has also been repeatedly noticed in many cases that of the two individuals in conjugation one was somewhat smaller and more delicate, and if it were a colored species, it was paler than the other. Little significance usually has been given to this difference.

Claparede and Lachman (*Etudes sur les Infusoires*, 1859, 445) have viewed such cases of the supposed conjugation of *Arcella*, as simply the formation of a new test to accommodate the contents of an old one which had become too small.

Bütschli (*Archiv f. Mikr. Anat.* 1875, 459), after observing the supposed conjugation of *Arcella*, noticed within the test free moving *Amœbæ*. These he supposed were the brood of the former, but after having seen them escape from the test, he failed to trace their further course.